United Nations A/53/464/Add.2

General Assembly

Distr.: General
23 November 1998
English
Original: Arabic

Fifty-third session
Agenda item 118

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Report of the Fifth Committee (Part III)

Rapporteur: Mr. Tammam **Sulaiman** (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 118 appear in the reports of the Committee contained in documents A/53/464 and Add.1.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 9th, 12th to 15th and 29th meetings, on 16, 23, 28 and 29 October and 18 November 1998. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary record (A/C.5/53/SR.9, 12-15 and 29).

3. In addition to the documents listed in A/53/464 and Add.1, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Committee on Contributions;[1]

(b) Letter dated 9 October 1998 from the Acting President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee transmitting a letter dated 8 October 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations (A/C.5/53/23);

(c) Letter dated 14 October 1998 from the Acting President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee transmitting a letter dated 12 October 1998 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Congo to the United Nations (A/C.5/53/24);

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/53/11).

98-36698 (E) 241198

(d) Letter dated 22 October 1998 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee transmitting a letter dated 19 October 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.5/53/28).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.13

4. At the 29th meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Ireland and coordinator of informal consultations on this item introduced a draft resolution entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations" (A/C.5/53/L.13), which was submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations.

5. The attention of the Committee was drawn to the statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.13, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.5/53/35).

6. At the same meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions orally presented the comments and recommendations of the Advisory Committee regarding the programme budget implications of the draft resolution (see A/C.5/53/SR.29).

7. At its 29th meeting, on 18 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.13 without a vote (see para. 9).

8. Following the adoption of the resolution, statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Uganda, Cuba, New Zealand, Australia, Singapore, Zambia, the Republic of the Congo and Indonesia.

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

9. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Noting the requests of Bosnia and Herzegovina,[2] the Republic of the Congo[3] and Iraq[4] for exemption under Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its decision 53/406 B of 7 October 1998, by which it decided to grant to Georgia and to Guinea-Bissau a temporary waiver under Article 19 for a period of three months,

Recalling its resolution 52/215 B of 22 December 1997,

[2] A/C.5/53/23, annex.
[3] A/C.5/53/24, annex.
[4] A/C.5/53/28, annex.

1. *Reaffirms* its role in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations and the advisory role of the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

2. *Requests* the Committee on Contributions to hold a special session of one week's duration as early as possible in 1999 to consider representations from Member States with respect to the application of Article 19 of the Charter and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-third session pursuant to rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

3. *Invites* Member States to submit detailed information to the Committee on Contributions in explanation of their requests as soon as possible so as to facilitate the work of the Committee;

4. *Decides* to consider the report of the Committee on Contributions on this matter as soon as possible after the issuance of that report.